



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: April 4, 1991

SUBJECT: Town Lake Irrigation Pump Construction

Construction began on the Town Lake irrigation pump station on February 18, 1991. The limestone-exterior pump room on Auditorium Shores, at the northern end of the tree-lined concrete walkway, will house three pumps which will draw raw water from the lake. The pumps have a capacity to irrigate parkland north of Riverside Drive, between South First Street and West Bouldin Creek.

The roof of the pump room has been designed as an observation deck, with handrails.

The Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPWT), which serves as the project manager, has advised the construction will be completed by June 7.

In a related matter, it was suggested during your tour of the Seaholm Power Plant water-intake building that the pumps might be used as park irrigation pumps when the plant is de-commissioned in the future. The PARD Planning and Design section has asked the DPWT Engineering Division to investigate the suitability of the pumps for the purpose of Town Lake irrigation, as well as the condition of the pumps and whether the existing irrigation system could be modified to accept the large pumps. I will forward their response to you.

Please contact me or Stuart Strong if you desire additional information.

Carolyn Nelson

for Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

MAM:SS



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: April 4, 1991

SUBJECT: Status of Town Lake Lowering during September 1991

I have the following information in response to your question raised at the March 26, 1991 Parks Board meeting concerning the schedule for lowering Town Lake in September.

The Austin Rowing Club is hosting the 1991 US Masters Rowing Championships to be held on the weekend of September 26-28, 1991. The City Electric Utility, which is responsible for lowering Town Lake has indicated there are no plans to lower Town Lake at any time during 1991.

In conjunction with the widening of S. First Street bridge, there was a proposal to lower Town Lake two feet for a period of six to eight weeks starting March 25, 1991; however, this did not occur because it would have coincided with the bass spawning season. The Austin Rowing Club's Heart of Texas Regatta was held during the weekend prior to this date, March 16-17, 1991.

The contractor for the bridge widening has a contractual requirement that no work can be carried out on Town Lake during seven specific weekends during 1991 so as not to conflict with proposed events on the lake. The events and the dates are listed below:

March	16-17	Heart of Texas Regatta
April	21	Duck Race
July	27-28	Aqua Fest
August	3-4	Aqua Fest
	10-11	Aqua Fest
September	26-28	U.S. Masters Rowing Championships
November	9	Head of The Colorado Regatta

for Carolyn Nelson
Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

MAM:SS

88 FYI



MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED

MAR 18 1991

TO: John B. Moore, P.E., Director
Electric Utility Department

FROM: Wm. R. Stockton, P.E., Director
Department of Public Works and Transportation

DATE: March 12, 1991

PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY OF AUSTIN

SUBJECT: Cancellation of Proposed Lowering of Town Lake Water Level for
Construction of South First Street Bridge Improvements

On February 21, 1991, a request to lower the Town Lake water level for the construction of South First Street bridge improvements was submitted to your Department.

The attached memo from Austan Librach, Director of the Environmental and Conservation Services Department, is in response to the notification about the proposed lake lowering. Because of the concerns cited in this memo, the contractor for the State Highway Department has now agreed to construct the improvements to the South First Street Bridge without requiring the lowering of the lake level. Therefore, we are now requesting that the proposal to lower Town Lake beginning on March 25 be canceled.

Thank you for your cooperation on this issue. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Scharlach at 499-7228.

A. DOUGLAS PROEWAKER

for Wm. R. Stockton, P.E., Director
Department of Public Works and Transportation

WRS:EAS:eas

Attachments

xc: Nathaniel Cannon, Electric
Manuel Mollinedo, PARD
Austan Librach, Environmental and Conservation Services



MEMORANDUM

TO: Bill Stockton, P.E., Director
Department of Public Works and Transportation

FROM: Austan S. Librach, Director
Environmental and Conservation Services Department

DATE: March 4, 1991

SUBJECT: Drawdown of Town Lake and Fishery Impacts

Our office has been contacted by the Electric Department concerning a proposed lowering of Town Lake in association with the widening of the South First Street Bridge. This is proposed to be a two foot lowering expected to start March 25, 1991 and last approximately six to eight weeks.

The period proposed for drawing down Town Lake coincides with the bass spawning season. The Colorado River is a relatively cold water system, so spawning season is predominately in the month of April, with some spawning activity in May. Spawning season is practically over by June, but some sunfish spawn all spring and summer. These species spawn in the shallow littoral or shelf zone that parallels the shoreline between the bank and the main channel. A two foot drawdown during this period would expose much of the spawning zone and would also damage the vegetation along the shoreline used by the fry for cover from predation. According to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, drawdowns are unfavorable from March through June.

I bring this matter to your attention because several years ago, I believe in the Spring of 1987, a lowering of Town Lake was done and it resulted in a great deal of outcry from the bass fishing public, bad press for the City and a very unfavorable reaction from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. A requirement for public hearing and decision from Council on lake lowerings was even considered.

It seems like a meeting is held on lake lowerings at least once a year. The most recent one was several months ago at Water and Wastewater Department concerning lake lowerings for trash pickup. Several departments attended although I do not know if Public Works had a representative present. Since the word doesn't seem to be getting to the people who need it, perhaps a rule should be prepared on lake lowerings and placed in the Parks or Environmental Criteria Manual. My staff would be willing to initiate such a rule.



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: John Moore, Director
Electric Department

FROM: Wm. R. Stockton, P.E., Director
Department of Public Works and Transportation

DATE: February 21, 1991

SUBJECT: Request to Lower the Town Lake Water Level for
Construction of South First Street
Bridge Improvements (C.I.P.# 825-607-2064)

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation (SDHPT) recently awarded the construction contract for improvements to the South First Street Bridge over Town Lake. The existing bridge will be widened to add sidewalks and an additional travel lane in each direction.

Constructing the new bridge piers will require lowering the lake level two feet from the normal pool elevation of 428.5 feet. We are therefore requesting that the Electric Utility Department administer the lowering of the Town Lake Water level by two feet, for a period of eight weeks beginning on March 25, 1991. We are also requesting that appropriate notification be provided to all affected parties. This issue was presented to the Parks and Recreation Board on February 19, 1991.

If you have any questions on this or any other aspect of the South First Street Bridge improvements, please contact Anne Scharlach at 499-7228. Thank you for your assistance on this issue.

Bill Stockton

Wm. R. Stockton, P.E., Director
Department of Public Works and Transportation

WRS:EAS:dm
5142

Attachments

xc: Mr. Nathaniel Cannon, Electric
Mr. Bill Gabler, J.D. Abrams Construction



City of Austin

Founded by Congress, Republic of Texas, 1839
Municipal Building, Eighth at Colorado, P.O. Box 1088, Austin, Texas 78767 Telephone 512/499-2000

February 28, 1991

Mrs. Beverly Griffith, Chairperson
Austin Parks and Recreation Board
2908 Scenic Drive
Austin, Texas 78705

Dear Mrs. Griffith:

On behalf of the Electric Utility Department (EUD), thank you for the opportunity to be heard by the Parks and Recreation Board during the February 26, 1991 meeting. Although there were some initial concerns regarding construction timing and access to Northwest Park, I believe they were addressed to everyone's satisfaction.

The Board's vote to allow the EUD's request demonstrates improved departmental relations and also the teamwork required to fulfill each department's mission; whether that mission is to provide modern recreational facilities or safe and reliable energy. The EUD will build on this positive interaction and will continue to strive for improved departmental relations.

Again, thank you for your time, consideration and affirmative vote.

Sincerely,

Ernie Nance, Project Manager
Project Development Division
Electric Utility Department

xc: Manuel Mollinedo - PARD
John Moore - EUD
Milton Lee - EUD
Larry Patterson - EUD

RECEIVED

MAR 4 1991

PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY OF AUSTIN

1153/aj

//



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: April 4, 1991

SUBJECT: Sandblasting Graffiti at Montopolis Recreation Center

The Parks and Recreation Department Facility Maintenance Section completed a graffiti removal project at Montopolis Recreation Center Friday March 1, 1991. They sandblasted the graffiti from various park structures. This activity was done in conjunction with the neighborhood groups, who had scheduled an area-wide clean-up the following weekend. The cooperative effort made did much to "spruce up" the entire area.

for Carolyn Nelson
Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

MAM/k



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: April 4, 1991

SUBJECT: Identification of Boats Used by Rowing Coaches

As requested at the Parks Board meeting of March 26, I have investigated the placing of identification numbers on the boats used by coaches of rowing teams practicing on Town Lake. The Park Police Administrator has spoken with the rowing groups, and they are in the process of obtaining the required State identification number from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

for Carolyn Nelson
Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

MAM/k



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Board

FROM: Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: April 4, 1991

SUBJECT: City Council Action on Zachary Scott Theatre and Paramount Theatre CIP Bonds

Two items have been scheduled for consideration at the April 4, 1991 Council meeting concerning the allocation of 1985 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for Zachary Scott Theatre and Paramount Theatre.

In January 1985 Proposition 2 allowed the issuance of \$20,285,000 in general obligation bonds for construction of a publicly owned art museum on donated land downtown and the renovation of performing arts facilities. Specifically, \$14,700,000 was allocated for the construction of a downtown art museum, \$3,500,000 was allocated to expand the Zachary Scott Theatre, and \$2,000,000 was to allow the Paramount Theatre to lease and renovate the State Theatre next door in order to supplement the existing rehearsal and performance space.

The two agenda items are to "Amend the 1990-91 CIP Budget to allocate bond proceeds for Phases II and III of Zachary Scott Theatre Center Project" and "Amend the 1990-91 CIP Budget to allocate bond proceeds to the Paramount Theatre Project".

At the time this memorandum is being prepared, no backup material is available but the apparent purpose of the items is to restate the Council's commitment to the use of the bonds proceeds in the manner originally stated at the time of the bond election.

The Zachary Scott Theatre project is in progress. Phase I is essentially complete and the remaining bond balance will be used to complete the development plan.

The Paramount Theatre organization has not implemented their project but they have recently formulated plans to move forward and utilize the \$2,000,000 appropriation.

I will report the City Council's action at the Parks Board meeting of April 8.

for 

Manuel A. Mollinedo, Director
Parks and Recreation Department

MAM:SS